

BEFORE
THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF
SOUTH CAROLINA
DOCKET NO. 97-464-W/S - ORDER NO. 98-182
MARCH 11, 1998

IN RE: Mark W. Erwin, Riverhills,)	ORDER DENYING
and other Lake Wylie Consumers,)	REQUEST TO MOVE
Complainants,)	HEARING TO
)	LAKE WYLIE AREA AND
vs.)	GRANT MOTION TO
)	EXTEND PREFILE DATES
Carolina Water Service, Inc.,)	
)	
Respondent.)	

This matter comes before the Public Service Commission of South Carolina ("the Commission") on the separate requests to (1) move the hearing set for April 2, 1998 to the Lake Wylie area and (2) extend prefile deadlines for Staff and other parties.

REQUEST TO MOVE HEARING

On March 4, 1998, the Commission received a letter from Tom Burton, Sr., member of York County Council from District #2, in which Mr. Burton requested that the Commission hearing set for April 2, 1998, in the above-referenced matter be moved from Columbia to the Lake Wylie area.

Upon consideration of this request to move the April 2, 1998, hearing to the Lake Wylie, the Commission finds that the request should be denied. On February 16, 1998, the Commission held a night hearing in the Lake Wylie area. The purpose of that hearing

was to provide a convenient forum to the customers of Carolina Water Service, Inc. (“CWS”) to voice their concerns and comments regarding the issues in the instant Docket. The hearing currently set for April 2, 1998, is a continuation of the proceedings begun in this Docket and is scheduled to be held in the Commission’s hearing room in Columbia. The April 2, 1998, hearing is the hearing where CWS and the parties of record will present their positions for Commission consideration. The Commission does not believe that it is necessary to move the April 2 hearing to the Lake Wylie area. The parties to this Docket have been noticed that the Docket will be held in Columbia. While the Commission has and will hold evening hearings for the convenience of customers to express their views and comments, the Commission has not previously held the day hearings in locations away from the Commission. The Commission finds no compelling reason to depart from that practice. Therefore, the Commission denies the request of Mr. Burton to move the April 2, 1998, hearing to the Lake Wylie area.

STAFF MOTION TO EXTEND DATES TO PREFILE TESTIMONY

On March 4, 1998, the Commission Staff (“Staff”) filed a Motion requesting that the Commission extend the prefiling dates to allow Staff prefile its testimony on March 9, 1998. By Order No. 98-11, dated January 11, 1998, the Commission established prefiling dates for the parties in the above-captioned Docket. Order No. 98-11 established March 5, 1998, as the date by which the Commission Staff and the Complainants to this Docket should prefile testimony and exhibits and set March 19, 1998, as the date by which the Respondent should prefile its testimony and exhibits.

In support of its request for an extension, the Staff advised the Commission that its intended to prefile the testimony of one witness and that Staff's witness would be Gary E. Walsh, Deputy Executive Director of the Commission. Staff further advised the Commission that Staff needed additional time in which to prefile this testimony as Mr. Walsh had been called upon to complete other pressing work of the Commission. Staff also stated that it would consent to a similar extension being granted to all other parties.

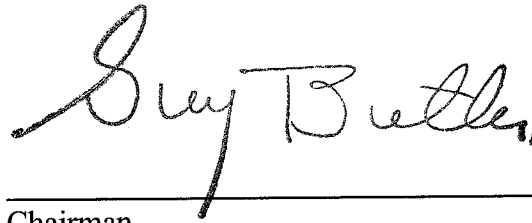
Upon consideration of Staff's Motion for an Extension to Prefile Testimony, the Commission believes that Staff has shown good cause for an extension. Further, the Commission believes that an extension will not prejudice any other party. Therefore, the Commission grants a five day extension of time for the Staff to prefile testimony. Likewise, the Commission will grant a similar extension to all other parties.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:

1. The request to move the hearing set for April 2, 1998 to the Lake Wylie area is denied.
2. The Staff Motion for an Extension of Time to Prefile Testimony is granted and a similar extension is granted to all other parties. Therefore, Staff and all Complainants to the above-captioned Docket shall prefile their testimony and exhibits on or before March 10, 1998, and the Respondent shall prefile its testimony and exhibits on or before March 24, 1998.

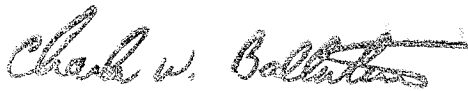
3. This Order shall remain in full force and effect until further Order of the Commission.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:



Chairman

ATTEST:



Executive Director

(SEAL)